

**INDIANA STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (INSILC)
MINUTES**

August 10th, 2016 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Center – Conference Rooms 4 & 5
402 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

INSILC Members Present: Peri Rogowski, Chris Cleveland, Bill Fama, Thom Hayes, Cynthia Rockwell, Erin Hall, Kevin Burk, Derek Deckman, Bonnie Bomer, and Fred Vaiana

INSILC Members Absent: Peter Ciancone

Guests Present: Amber O’Haver, Teresa Koleszar, Morgan Daly

- I. **Welcome and Call to Order:** Chairperson, Chris Cleveland, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** INSILC Board Members and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance
- III. **Roll Call:** Peri Rogowski (DSE liaison, Non-Voting Member), Fred Vaiana (Voting Member), Morgan Daly (Administrative Coordinator), Amber O’Haver (INSILC Executive Director), Chris Cleveland (Chairperson, Voting Member), Thom Hayes (State Agency Rep., Non-Voting Member), Bonnie Bomer (State Agency Rep., Non-Voting Member), Bill Fama (Voting Member), Cynthia Rockwell (Voting Member), Erin Hall (State Agency Rep., Non-Voting Member), Kevin Burk (Voting Member), Derek Deckman (Voting Member)
- IV. **Approval of the Agenda:** The agenda for the meeting was distributed. Motion to approve the agenda was made by Bill Fama. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Rockwell and the motion was passed.
- V. **Statement of the Chair:** Code of Conduct was read aloud to the Council and audience by Chairperson, Chris Cleveland. Chris Cleveland reminded the public that there will be an opportunity for public comment following the meeting. He reminded the council and public that the comments would be limited to five minutes and that the council does not have an obligation to respond to public comments.
- VI. **Approval of Minutes (07-13-16):** Cynthia Rockwell made a motion to approve the minutes. Fred Vaiana seconded the motion and the motion was passed.
- VII. **Treasurer’s Report:** Chris Cleveland explained that this will be given at next meeting, as Peter’s mother fell on his way to the meeting and he was not able to attend.
- VIII. **Old Business**
 - A. **501c3 Establishment (Timeline):** Amber O’Haver developed and distributed a plan and a timeline of what the transition will look like through August and September. INSILC will absorb and amend ICOIL Inc.’s 501c3 status. This will make the transition smooth in relation to the contract for INSILC funds with FSSA. Amber O’Haver asked for questions or comments. Fred Vaiana asked if this status still needs to be approved by the IRS. Amber O’Haver explained that they don’t, as the intermediary ICOIL, Inc. already has a 501c3 status and INSILC will be able to absorb it. This eliminates having to apply as a new 501c3 and the long process. Next month the board will need to approve a Plan of Amendment in relation to the transition.
 - B. **SPIL 2017-2019 Amendment & Process:** Chris Cleveland explained that because Peter Ciancone was not able to attend that Amber O’Haver will provide an update. Amber O’Haver explained that with the transition to a 501c3, INSILC will have to amend the new state plan that was submitted. The ACL has not yet sent the SPIL back with comments but they are aware that INSILC is making the transition to a 501c3 and that changes will be coming. This will mean that INSILC will hold a public hearing for input into any SPIL amendments. It was explained that this would be discussed in further detail as the change arises.

- C. INSILC Officer Nominations:** Chris Cleveland announced the proposed slate of INSILC officers as follows: Chair: Chris Cleveland, Vice Chair: Fred Vaiana, Treasurer: Peter Ciancone, Secretary: Cynthia Rockwell. A motion to approve was given by Fred Vaiana and the motion was seconded by Derek Deckman. The motion was approved.
- D. SILC Congress Conference:** Amber O'Haver explained that there isn't any updated information since last month. The conference will be in Phoenix from January 17th to the 20th and anyone who would like to attend should get their Conference Request forms in to Chris & her early.
- E. NCIL Conference Report:** Amber O'Haver explained that she, Peri Rogowski and Tonya Resler attended the NCIL conference that was very worthwhile. Amber O'Haver shared that there was a march to the Capitol, meetings with legislators on the hill, a rally, and more. She and those around the city were Impressed to see individuals with disabilities who have a challenging time in the heat, marching to the capitol. It was both powerful and empowering. Amber O'Haver continued to discuss that one of the big topics and bills talked about was the Disability Integration Act (DIA). This legislation would eliminate the institutional bias in the county. The DIA takes the Olmstead mandate out of the courts and puts in into law. The current Supreme Court decision can be interpreted very differently and the implementation of the law will be more clear and allow people to live in the community with the supports that they need. Peri Rogowski shared that one of NCIL's big pushes was to help the DIA get out of committee and to get support from legislators. She noted that SILCs and CILs should be talking to their people about supporting the DIA and the impact it will have on those with disabilities. Peri Rogowski also talked about the awards banquet, celebration, and networking opportunities. She encouraged people to attend next year and there was further discussion about the highly accessible rooms at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, where the conference took place. Amber O'Haver added additional information on the accessible features of the rooms. Peri Rogowski continued by adding information on how CILs can utilize fee for service opportunities. Amber O'Haver added by talking about how the CILs in Illinois have had their funding cut because of the budget crisis and that funding sustainability is important for all Centers. Amber O'Haver provided a final comment on the DIA, noting that INSILC will be reaching out to Representative Carson, on Congress Appropriations committee, to ask him to be a sponsor and to support the DIA bill.
- F. Executive/Administrative Coordinator Hire:** Amber O'Haver introduced Morgan Daly as the new hire for the position of Administrative Coordinator. Morgan Daly introduced herself to the council.
- G. INSILC Training:** Amber O'Haver asked for thoughts and ideas on a possible schedule adjustment as the current schedule has not been working well. Fred Vaiana shared that it is easiest to have training on the day of the meeting so that there doesn't have to be another day of travel. Chris Cleveland suggested training prior to the meeting. Cynthia Rockwell agreed with Fred Vaiana's comment and then Fred Vaiana asked for a set time as meetings don't necessarily run for a specific time. 11:30 before the meeting was the time suggested and Chris Cleveland and Amber O'Haver agreed that 11:30 a.m. worked best and that they would look at the calendar or the upcoming months and send everyone an update as to what month these morning trainings would start.

XI. New Business

a. New Council Members:

- b. Kevin Burk:** Has been working with people with disabilities for 16 years. Has muscular dystrophy himself. Wants to get out there to help his people and is looking forward to working on the council. One day his goal is to work for NCIL.

- c. **Derek Deckman:** Has been using a chair for about 27 years and has a minor is Deaf Studies working with many organizations in Indiana and Ohio, VP at Salesforce, and is looking forward to working with the Council.

X. Updates, Reports, Comments

A. Executive Director Report stated by Amber O'Haver:

- In Indiana 70% of Medicaid funds for care are going to facilities. The Indiana Director of Medicaid, Joe Moser, shared that his top priority is to shift these Medicaid institutional funds to home and community based funding and rebalance the state. The Division of Aging has created an MFP work group that she has been working with and was invited me to meet with CMS to talk about the issues the state has had with the program. Accessible, affordable, and integrated housing is hard to find and hard to maintain. The workgroup has discussed how we are going to address the barriers in the state and how we are going to transition more people out of facilities into the community. The goal is to have 1-2,000 people to transition, which is very bold as only 1,800 have been transitioned in the past 8 years. She wanted to let the Council know that this is part of what INSILC is doing and asked for issues from the Council that they would like addressed with the work group.
- Met with the Executive Director of the Governor's Council for People with Disabilities and they were interested and want to move forward with adding an Independent Living track to their annual conference. They have had a speaker with a disability who is an attorney and works in IL agree to attend. The session will work on doing actual work while you are at the conference so that it isn't a learn and leave situation. Disability services as well as mental health and addiction will be focused on. This is a work in progress but looks very positive. It is less expensive to host a track in a conference instead of hosting your own conference. Hosting our own conference would be the end goal after getting our feet wet.

B. Peer Review Committee: Bill Fama stated that he did not have an update at this time.

C. Outreach Committee: Chris Cleveland provided information about the first Outreach Committee meeting. There were 10 people at the meeting and he felt it was successful. They talked about the following questions and answers. How can we grow and get our name out there? We want a clear single message. What do we do? Educate, empower, and advocate for people with disabilities to exercise their rights and be fully included in their community. Who do we want to reach and how are we going to reach them? People with Disabilities, Council partners and legislators. What is the scope of work for an Outreach Vendor? To conduct research on what other CILs and states are doing in IL. CILs in Indiana. Look at how INSILC and the CILs partner and partner with FSSA. They want to help the centers and other organizations who help people with disabilities and their caregivers. Advocate for the centers and what they need. They also talked about Salesforce data, social media development, marketing materials, promotional pieces, pricing requests and package deals. The committee will be meeting every 3rd Thursday at 2:00 p.m. and they are looking to rotate locations to learn what other organizations are doing and to promote each other.

D. SPIL Committee (2017-2019): Peter was not able to attend and give an update.

E. Updates—DSE—Peri Rogowski Updates:

- They have been busy and have had quite a few staff changes. The Director of Quality Improvement Services, Anne Davis, is moving to another position and Julia Anderson has left for another position. They have been doing their best to keep staffing up, VR in particular. Strategies are surrounding how to best provide quality services to consumers.
- Blind and Visually Impaired Services is doing well as they have had a few new licensed managers at their sites. Peri shared a story about a man who was homeless who now

has his own business and family and how great it is to see someone who struggled so much to be able to successfully provide for his family without government support.

- The transition piece is moving forward and there will be more updates as this happens. They are trying to get all of the players and pieces in place with the final rule. They awarded 9 contracts to service providers for pre-employment transition services for VR. They are coordinated with other entities around the state who will be able to provide their services.

F. Update—Centers for Independent Living:

- **Teresa Torres (Everybody Counts and Everybody Counts North):** Asked for a description on what is deemed a center update. Chris Cleveland commented that she could get an example from other center directors. Teresa said that she posed the following question last month and is still awaiting a response: What has this council ever done that has impacted the lives of people with disabilities? What is in the state plan that has the potential to have any tangible impact? What are you doing as a SILC? What is the SILC's process of verifying an elected representative?
- **Amy Brown-Varble.** Amy explained that they are the newest center and notes that the council has made a lot of changes recently and thanked the council for their support and the opportunity to become a recognized center.

G. Update—IDR—Bonnie Bomer: They have changed their name from IPAS to IDR and are reorganizing the agency and bringing staff from a home based to office based setting. They are going to sheltered workshops in the state, talking to clients and staff to find out what it is like to work in a sheltered workshop, what they would like to do, and how shelters are adjusting to the changes with WIOA legislation. They hope to develop a white paper to align with disability employment month and give more information about what it is like and what the possibilities are to alternatives to sheltered employment in Indiana.

H. Update—INDOT—Erin Hall: Erin Hall shared that she is INDOT's Title 6 and ADA Coordinator. She attended a Human Rights Conference in June. It is an annual conference that covers all issues from disability, race, and gender. The conference is in Evansville and occurs annually. The state is working to insure that roads their facilities are making improvements towards meeting accessible standards. They also monitor compliance of anyone they give funding to through Title 6 and the ADA. Annually they submit a survey to every city and town that wants federal funds through INDOT (over 300) and survey their compliance and transition plans. She urges people to connect with the communities and work with their area ADA coordinators. Fred Vaiana asked how much of a reach that INDOT has with a municipality, hypothetically asking about ADA complaint sidewalks. Erin Hall answered that it depends on funding and what funding it used for the feature in question. She explained further that the oversight of transition plans gives a further reach to insure the accessibility of other areas that aren't generally covered by INDOT.

I. Public Comment

- **Peggy Mac** shared that she found out about INSILC through Bonnie and wanted to know about INDOT and how to get turnabouts in her local area. Erin Hall shared that unless you are on a state road you would reach out to the local entity and gave information to contact the Erin Hall shared that should would give Peggy her email after the meeting. Peggy then asked Amber O'Haver which hotel it was in DC that was very accessible and Amber gave her the information of the Grand Hyatt Hotel.
- **George—Lake County:** George commented that Disability Integration Act was talked about earlier through public comment and he was disappointed to see that it is just now being discussed. He commented that the SILC conference was great but that he did receive some questions about Indiana's SILC and had concerns about the reputation of the group because of the incident questioned. He also commented that

the budgets are not detailed with individual items or line items, making it difficult to know where and how monies are being spent. He handed a copy of a formal request for more detailed financial information. To Chris Cleveland and Amber O'Haver. Amber O'Haver asked for clarification on what CILC stands for and George noted this was to meant to be INSILC.

- **Rene Jackson—Lake County:** Rene shared she is glad to see new council members and hopes that they received proper training. She shared that she is disappointed in the state plan because it didn't have any substance and was vague. She stated that she was reading over the last meeting's minutes and the statement that their center was trying to shut down this agency was hers, not Ms. Torres.
- **Teresa Torres:** Asked if questions for the representative from INDOT would count towards her 5 minutes. Chris Cleveland answered that it would. She then asked when will she get a response to all of the formal requests that she made. Chris Cleveland noted that they are working on those and hopes to get answers to her in the next few weeks. She then directed her question to Erin Hall with INDOT, noting that they repaved large areas of downtown Gary. In doing so they created an area where there is a mote (6 to 8-foot area) that is filled with water. They brought this to INDOT's attention and their response was to post signs that say high water. Erin Hall responded that she would hang around after the meeting to talk about the issue. She concluded by stating that she is going to ask in writing for answers to the questions she has posed and hopes it won't take 2.5 months to get an answer.
- **Member of Public – NW Indiana:** She wanted to thank Tonya Resler for getting information to her about her local CIL and shared because of this she was able to attend the NCIL conference. She shared that one dynamic part of the conference was the theme to connect with solidarity. This reaches the group she serves (youth). She wanted to know which committee would address the idea of solidarity. Amber O'Haver answered that the outreach committee would and that she was more than welcome to attend meeting and join the Outreach committee and share information on solidarity and how they can give public information on the DIA.

J. Announcements

- Amber O'Haver shared that there are opportunities for public input and explained that these are good opportunities to let people and agencies know what is working and what needs to be changed. Please push out to folks.
 1. Medicaid statewide HCBS plan, through Aug 26th, by email or mail
 2. IDR annual survey, asking for info on annual goals and priorities
 3. IDR public hearing, August 27th at IDR office, starts at 9:30 a.m.
 4. Health by Design, bike and walk submit, August 29th-31st, a link on how to register and attend will be send out.
- Bonnie Bomer shared that she is involved in a training for INSILC on CIL responsibilities and is taking this class as a way to learn more about the IL Movement. This might be something that other individuals are interested in.

- K. Adjournment:** Chris Cleveland called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Derek Deckman motioned to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Fred Vaiana. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 14th from 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the Indiana Government Center, Conference Room C.